

(For immediate release)

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JEFFERSON CITY, MO, MAY, 2006 - The Missouri Department of Natural Resources has determined that the state is keeping an estimated 46 percent of its trash out of landfills.

In 2005, the department estimates that 1.13 tons of waste was landfilled per person in the state. This is up slightly from 1.07 tons per person in 2004. However, it is less than in 1990 when 1.3 tons of waste per person were disposed. The estimated amount of trash generated statewide has increased from 11.7 million tons a year ago, to 12.1 million tons in 2005. Paper products are still the largest percentage of waste disposed of.

Missouri landfills received 98,611 tons less waste in 2005 than accepted in 2004. However, Missouri exported 415,700 more tons of waste during the same period.

Since 2001 Missouri has continued to meet the 40 percent waste diversion goal established by Senate Bill 530, which was signed into law in 1990.

The department has several fact sheets, technical bulletins and brochures on the Web that can provide additional ways to reduce waste. For additional ways to reduce waste in your business or home, visit the department's Web site at www.dnr.mo.gov/env/swmp/publist.htm or contact Dennis Hansen at 1-800-361-4827 or (573) 751-5401.

For news releases on the Web, visit www.dnr.mo.gov/newsrel. For a complete listing of the department's upcoming meetings, hearings and events, visit the department's online calendar at www.dnr.mo.gov/calendar/search.do.

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